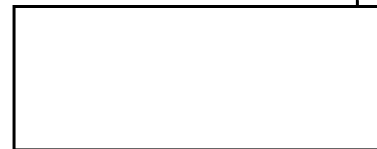


STAT



5th February 1968

Dear Sir,

Would the United States Government (visible or invisible) be interested in employing a very large number of highly trained, combat tried British ex infantrymen in Vietnam or South East Asia ?. I am at present endeavouring to raise a force of 5,000 to 10,000 ex infantrymen, paratroopers, Marine commandos, specialists in 81mm Mortar, Medium Machine Gun and Infantry assault engineers etc. I have carried out a survey at my own expense last spring and found that the number of personnel already quoted above could easily be recruited. In fact I found that double these figures could be recruited which would include men who have not had combat experience in the Far East, although they would be highly trained and had had combat experience elsewhere.

The initial force recruited will consist of Ex Borneo, Malaya, Korea campaign veterans roughly between the ages of 30 - 40 years. They could be formed into infantry battalions of about 940 men, being used for a front line role. On the other hand they could be used exclusively for counter guerrilla warfare operating at about half battalion strength.

I have served in the following operational theatres:-Korea, Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Suez, British Guiana and Borneo. I'm 35 years old ex infantry senior NCO and a specialist on the 81mm Mortar, Medium Machine Gun, Infantry Assault Engineering and Field Intelligence.

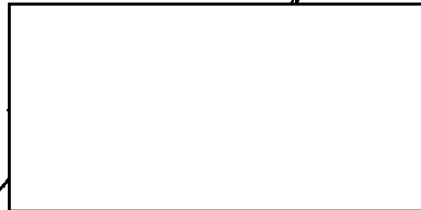
My ex Army associates and I feel that the time is now ripe for action and we would not like to see the Americans beaten by what we think are a "overrated shower of bums". Its about time the opposition had some serious fighting well below the belt.

I therefore request immediate financial aid for recruiting purposes that is if the offer is accepted.

I have chosen you Sir as the recipient of this letter because I feel that you , although you do not now hold a particular government appointment have the right contacts. I do of course beg you to treat the offer as genuine. If the offer is viewed intelligently I see no reason politically or militarily why the offer should be turned down.

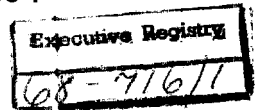
If the offer is turned down then they will be recruited by other stand by methods and employed elsewhere.

I conclude by saying that I do sincerely hope Sir that you do see the possibilities and act accordingly. An immediate reply through some channel is expected.



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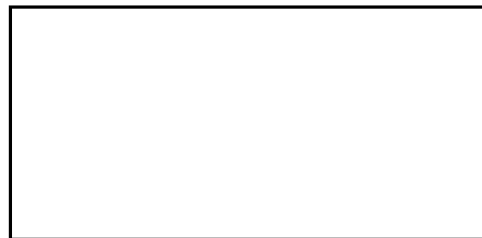
JOHN ALEX McCONE



STAT

February 9, 1968

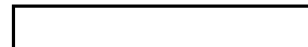
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Your letter of February 5th was received during Mr. McCone's absence from the city. However, the content of your letter was transmitted to him by telephone, and Mr. McCone asked me to write you, and to say that any such proposal must be handled through official channels, i. e., those of your Government and the Government of the United States.

Mr. McCone had no other suggestions.

Very truly yours,



Secretary to Mr. McCone

STAT

bc: Mr. Helms
CIA

STAT

Approved For Release 2004/05/12 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000200100008-7

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Office of

John A. McCone

Executive Registry

68-7/6

DATE February 9, 1968

TIME _____

Dear Dick:

The attached rather unusual communication might be of some interest to you or others in Washington.

JAM